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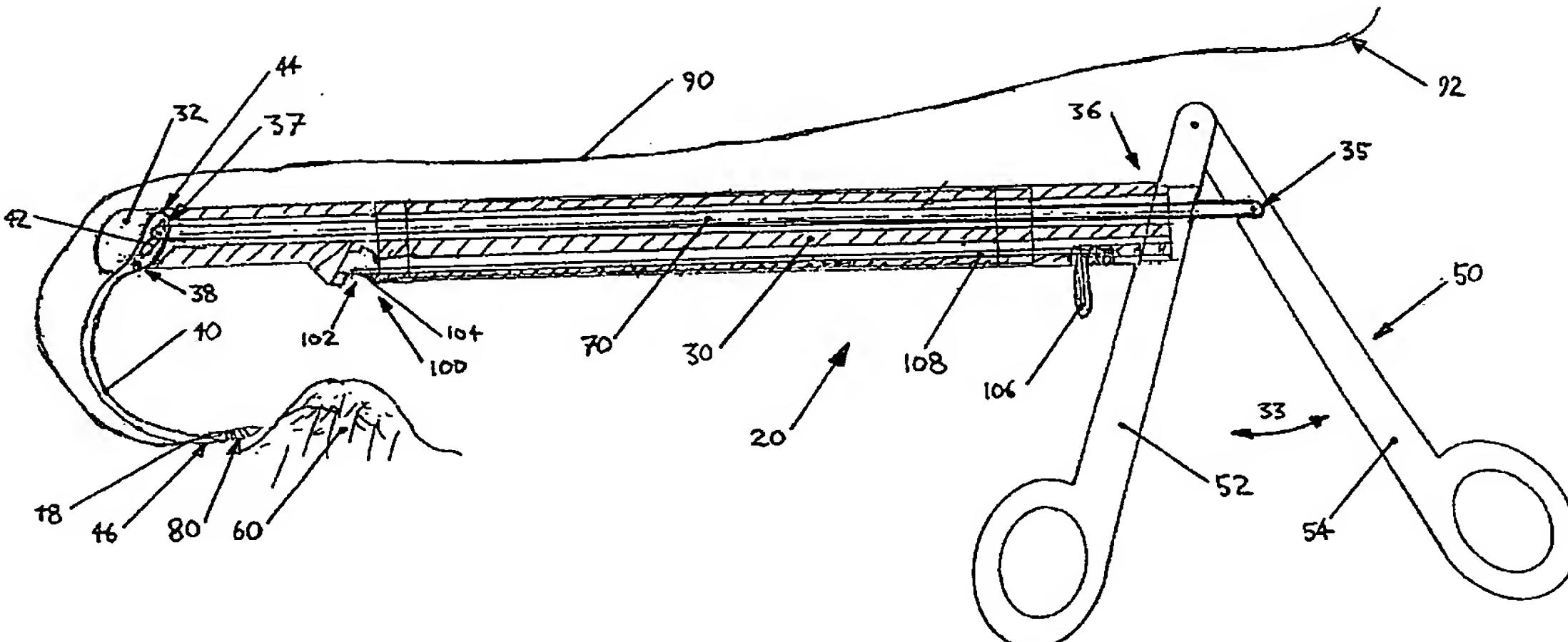
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(54) Title: LIGATURE CARRIER



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(57) Abstract: A ligature carrier and suturing device (20) comprising an elongate shaft member having a distal end and a proximal end. A needle carrier (40) is located at or adjacent the distal end of said elongate shaft member, said needle carrier comprising a rigid arcuate tooth member and having a first end and a second end and being pivotable at the first end about an axis which lies transverse to the longitudinal axis of the shaft member (30), the needle carrier adapted to carry a needle (80) with a suture (90) attached thereto. A needle capture means (100) is located on the shaft member, said needle capture device being adapted to engage with and capture needle carried by arcuate tooth. An operating means (50) coupled to the needle carrier and operable to cause the arcuate tooth member to pivot through an arc so that the needle engages with and is captured by the capture device, the operating means being operable from a location at or adjacent said proximal end of the shaft member.